



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



January 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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MINNESOTA, Central and South Central

MNZ041>045-047>061-063 **Douglas - Todd - Morrison - Mille Lacs - Kanabec - Stevens - Pope - Stearns - Benton - Sherburne - Isanti - Chisago - Lac Qui Parle - Swift - Chippewa - Kandiyohi - Meeker - Wright - Hennepin - Anoka - Washington**

03 1700CST **0** **0** **Winter Storm**
05 1700CST

A storm system which passed through the central U.S. resulted in a major snow storm over central Minnesota. Snowfall exceeded a foot and a half in many central Minnesota locations including 21 inches at Alexandria and Glenwood, 20 inches at Long Prairie, 19 inches at Little Falls and Milaca and 18 inches at Collegeville. Snow accumulations dropped off rapidly towards the Twin Cities where 4 inches was recorded. Other snowfall amounts included 12 inches at St. Cloud and St. Francis, 10 inches at Cambridge and Benson, 8 inches at Forest Lake, Canby and Montevideo. Strong winds gusting to 40 mph at times developed in the evening on 1/4 resulted in near blizzard conditions over west central Minnesota. Drifts of 5 to 7 feet were reported in the Madison area. Interstate 94 remained closed for a 24 hour period from Sauk Centre northward. West central Minnesota also received a period of freezing rain which preceded the snow late in the day on 1/3. Numerous highways were closed across west central Minnesota due to the combination of ice, snow and blowing snow. Highway 10 closed west of Staples for a time. The additional snow and ice from this snowstorm in combination with previously fallen accumulations resulted in numerous roofs collapsing over west central Minnesota. Seven cows perished under a collapsed barn, south of the town of Brandon. A partial roof collapse occurred at the Belgrade Fire Department and a marine business in New London suffered a roof collapse. A grocery store lost its roof in Glenwood. Several structures also collapsed in the Staples area.

MNZ041-047>048-054>057-064>065-073>075-082>083-091>092 **Douglas - Stevens - Pope - Lac Qui Parle - Swift - Chippewa - Kandiyohi - Yellow Medicine - Renville - Redwood - Brown - Nicollet - Watonwan - Blue Earth - Martin - Faribault**

09 1500CST **0** **0** **Blizzard**
10 2100CST

Sustained winds of 30 to 45 mph with gusts to 50 mph at times produced blizzard conditions for over a 24 hour period and paralyzed much of west central into portions of south central Minnesota. The winds in combination with cold temperatures produced windchills in the 40 to 70 degree below range. Wind chills of 71 degrees below zero were reported west of St. James at 8 am on 1/10. Interstate 94 was closed north of Sauk Centre and Interstate 90 was closed west of Fairmont. Most roads were closed from Morris and Appleton to Fairmont west to the Dakota border. Visibilities were frequently near zero and many roads were blown shut. A number of locations near Clarkfield, Madison, Dawson, and Minneota lost electrical power due to the strong winds. The winds finally began to diminish late in the day on 1/10, but extreme wind chills lingered over the area into the morning hours of 1/12. One man stranded in his vehicle for 43 hours near the town of Renville. Numerous schools closed on 1/9 and 1/10.

MNZ041-047>048-054>057-064>065-073>075-082>085-091>093 **Douglas - Stevens - Pope - Lac Qui Parle - Swift - Chippewa - Kandiyohi - Yellow Medicine - Renville - Redwood - Brown - Nicollet - Watonwan - Blue Earth - Waseca - Steele - Martin - Faribault - Freeborn**

15 1600CST **0** **0** **Blizzard**
16 1000CST

A strong cold front swept through the area increasing wind speeds to 25 to 40 mph with occasional gusts to 50 mph. Simultaneously, temperatures plummeted well below zero resulting in wind chills of 40 to 65 below zero. The strong winds dropped visibilities to near zero at times in blowing snow. Interstates 90 and 35 closed in vicinity of Albert Lea. Interstate 35 was closed north of Albert Lea. Highway 67 closed between Clarkfield and Granite Falls.



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		Local/ Standard	Length (Miles)	Width (Yards)	Killed	Injured	Property Damage	Crops	

MINNESOTA, Central and South Central

MNZ041>045-047>070-073>078-082>085-091>093 Douglas - Todd - Morrison - Mille Lacs - Kanabec - Stevens - Pope - Stearns - Benton - Sherburne - Isanti - Chisago - Lac Qui Parle - Swift - Chippewa - Kandiyohi - Meeker - Wright - Hennepin - Anoka - Ramsey - Washington - Yellow Medicine - Renville - Mcleod - Sibley - Carver - Scott - Dakota - Redwood - Brown - Nicollet - Le Sueur - Rice - Goodhue - Watonwan - Blue Earth - Waseca - Steele - Martin - Faribault - Freeborn

15 1700CST 0 0 Extreme Windchill
16 2000CST

Governor of Minnesota canceled school on 1/16 due to extreme wind chills. Wind chills in 40 to 60 below range much of period. Coldest wind chill noted was 63 below at Alexandria at 7 am on 1/16.

MNZ041>042-047>048-054>057-064>065-073>074-082>085-091>093 Douglas - Todd - Stevens - Pope - Lac Qui Parle - Swift - Chippewa - Kandiyohi - Yellow Medicine - Renville - Redwood - Brown - Watonwan - Blue Earth - Waseca - Steele - Martin - Faribault - Freeborn

22 0400CST 0 0 Winter Storm
2200CST

Strong winds of 20 to 35 mph restricted visibilities to zero at times due to blowing snow and additional 1 to 3 inch fresh snowfall. Drifts reached 15 feet in some parts of west central Minnesota due to previous snowfall and strong winds. Interstate 35 near Albert Lea closed temporarily due to multiple vehicle accidents from blowing snow. Nearly a dozen highways closed over west central and southwest Minnesota. 250 students spent the night at school in the Belview, Danube, Renville, and Sacred Heart school district.

WISCONSIN, West

WIZ014>015

Polk - Barron

04 0500CST 0 0 Heavy Snow
05 1500CST

Strong storm system passing through the central U.S. deposited heavy snow over northwest Wisconsin. 9 inches was reported in Luck while 13 inches was reported near Cushing. Other snowfall reports include 6 inches at Cumberland and St. Croix Falls.

WIZ014>016-023>028 Polk - Barron - Rusk - St. Croix - Pierce - Dunn - Pepin - Chippewa - Eau Claire

15 1700CST 0 0 Extreme Windchill
16 2000CST

Strong northwest winds of 25 to 40 mph in combination with temperatures around or below zero dropped windchills into the 40 to the 40 to 60 below zero range.